Government constituted a Committee headed by Shri J. F. Ribeiro, IPS (Retd.) on the interim direction of the Supreme Court in the above mentioned PIL on 25.5.1998 to review the recommendations of the National Police Commission and to suggest ways and means for implementation of the pending recommendations. The reports of the Committee have been filed in the Supreme Court as per its directions.

Treatment of under-trial prisoners

3398. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the law under-trial prisoners are to be treated humanly;

(b) whether under-trial prisoners are provided with minimum necessities of life such as good, hygiene and eatable food; and

(c) whether under-trial prisoners either Indians or foreigners can be allowed to eat food of their choice and at their own cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Prisons Act, 1894 provides that a civil prisoner or an unconvicted criminal prisoner shall be permitted to maintain himself, and to purchase, or receive from private sources at proper hours, food, clothing, bedding or other necessities, but subject to examination and to such rules as may be approved by the Inspector General.

Undertrials in Jails

3399. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the total number of undertrials in different jails in the country, State-wise and period-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI):